

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney David Ford on 01/04/2010. The application is amended as follows.

Amendments to the Specification:

Insert the following paragraph after the title, at the beginning of the specification:

-- This application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/CA03/01999, filed 12/22/2003. --

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in view of the previously and newly cited prior art: the prior arts fail to disclose or reasonably teach of a spindle having, *inter alia*, a torque lock independent of and axially spaced from a tool retaining arrangement and positioned concentrically in the axial tool bore of the spindle for concentrically receiving the torque lock portion of the tool shaft, in combination with the elements set forth in the claims.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HAO D. MAI whose telephone number is (571)270-3002. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cris Rodriguez can be reached on (571) 272-4964.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**/Hao D Mai/
Examiner, Art Unit 3732**

**/Cris L. Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3732**